

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-6. (Canceled)

Claim 7-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A process for the production of arachidonic acid (ARA), the process comprising culturing a micro-organism which is *Mortierella* in a culture medium inside a fermentation vessel, whereby at a stage which precedes the end of fermentation, ~~the rate of addition of the carbon source is~~ added at a rate below the rate of consumption of the carbon source by the micro-organisms.

17. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 16, wherein in said stage the micro-organisms are subjected to conditions whereby they metabolise, or consume, one or more fat(s) or lipids(s) in preference to arachidonic acid (ARA).

18. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 16, wherein in said stage the carbon source is added at a rate of  $\leq 0.30\text{M carbon/kg medium per hour}$ .

19. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 18, wherein in said stage the carbon source is added at a rate of at least  $0.01\text{ M carbon/kg medium/hour}$ .

20. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 16, wherein the concentration of the carbon source in that stage is from 0.5 to 4 g/kg on average  ~~$\leq 10\text{g/kg}$  and/or  $\leq 0.17\text{ M carbon/kg medium}$~~ .

21. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 16, wherein the carbon source is glucose and wherein the rate of addition of glucose is less than 1.0 g glucose/kg medium per hour.

22. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 16, wherein:

the fermentation is carried out at a temperature  $\geq 22^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $\leq 30^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Claim 23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 23, wherein the micro-organism is *Mortierella alpina*.

25. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 16, wherein the process is a submerged fermentation process.

26. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 16, wherein the ARA is present in a microbial oil.

27. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 26, wherein the microbial oil comprises at least 35% ARA.

28. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 27, wherein the microbial oil comprises at least 40% ARA.

29. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 16, wherein the microbial oil comprises at least 50% arachidonic acid (ARA).

30. (Previously Presented) A process according to claims 26, wherein the microbial oil has a triglyceride content of at least 90%.

31. (Previously Presented) A process according to claims 27, wherein the microbial oil has a triglyceride content of at least 90%.

32. (Previously Presented) A process according to claims 28, wherein the microbial oil has a triglyceride content of at least 90%.

33. (Previously Presented) A process according to claims 29, wherein the microbial oil has a triglyceride content of at least 90%.

34. (new) A process according to claim 16, wherein the rate of addition of the carbon source is 30-70% of the rate of consumption by the micro-organism.